

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BAGHDA 00729 051313Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
ICA-11 ARA-10 HA-05 ACDA-12 OMB-01 TRSE-00 EUR-12
/114 W

-----122373 060718Z /17

R 050931Z APR 78
FM USINT BAGHDAD
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5960
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BAGHDAD 0729

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR, XA, IZ
SUBJ: VISIT OF ISAIAS AFEWORK

REF: (A) BAGHDAD 350, (B) BAGHDAD 665,

1. DELEGATION OF ERITREAN POPULAR LIBERATION FRONT,
LED BY ISAIAS AFEWORK, ARRIVED BAGHDAD APRIL 2 FOR MEETINGS
WITH IRAQIS. REVOLUTIONARY COMMAND COUNCIL MEMBER TARIQ
AZIZ HEADS IRAQI SIDE IN HIS CAPACITY AS MEMBER OF
BAATH PARTY NATIONAL COMMAND.

2. IRAQI MEDIA CONTINUES TO REPORT EVENTS IN HORN IN WAYS
CRITICAL OF ETHIOPIANS. QUOTATIONS FROM SOMALI GOVERNMENT
SOURCES STILL MAKE THE NEWS, BUT FOCUS IS NOW ON ERITREAN
LIBERATION EFFORTS. MEDIA REFRAIN FROM ANY CRITICISM OF
SOVIETS AND CUBANS.

3. COMMENT. EPLF IS THIRD BRANCH OF ERITREAN LIBERATION
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MOVEMENT TO SEND DELEGATION TO BAGHDAD IN RECENT
MONTHS. AHMED NASSER OF ELF RECEIVED BY FAR THE BEST
WELCOME OF THREE MAJOR ERITREAN LEADERS WHEN HE CAME IN
FEBRUARY (REF A). BY CONTRAST, OSMAN SALEH SABBE OF
ELF/PLF CAME AND LEFT ALMOST WITHOUT NOTICE IN LATE
MARCH (REF B). REPORTEDLY, AFEWORK HAS NOT ENJOYED VERY
GOOD RELATIONS WITH BAGHDAD REGIME IN THE PAST. HIS

VISIT HERE MAY REFLECT IRAQI DESIRE TO BOLSTER ERITREAN
LEFT WING OR BE PART OF WIDER ARAB EFFORTS TO UNIFY
DISPARATE ERITREAN GROUPS. DESPITE IRAQ'S DEFERENCE TO
SOVIET AND CUBAN FRIENDS, REGIME APPARENTLY INTENDS TO
MAINTAIN ACTIVE SUPPORT OF ERITREANS.
MACK

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 05 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780492/aaaaczwp.tel
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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TAGS: PEPR, OTRA, XA, IZ, (AFEWORK, ISAIAS)
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